IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly replace claims 3, 5, and 7-10 as follows:

3. (Amended) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1, wherein the perpendicular magnetic enhancement layer is formed of at least one selected from the group consisting of Pt, Au, Pd and an alloy of these materials.

5. (Amended) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1, wherein the perpendicular magnetic recording layer is of a CoCr alloy.

7. (Amended) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1, further comprising a protective layer and a lubricant layer sequentially on the perpendicular magnetic recording layer.

8. (Amended) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1, wherein perpendicular magnetic enhancement layer is formed of Pt and has a thickness no less than 15 nm.

9. (Amended) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1, wherein the perpendicular magnetic recording medium has a double-layer structure including a soft magnetic layer between the substrate and the perpendicular orientation promoting underlayer.

10. (Amended) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1, wherein the perpendicular magnetic recording medium has a pseudo double-layer structure including a soft magnetic layer between the perpendicular orientation promoting underlayer and the perpendicular magnetic recording layer.

Kindly add claims 11-16 as follows:

--11. (New) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 2, wherein the perpendicular magnetic enhancement layer is formed of at least one selected from the group consisting of Pt, Au, Pd and an alloy of these materials.

12. (New) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 2, wherein the perpendicular magnetic recording layer is formed of a CoCr alloy.

13. (New) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 2, further comprising a protective layer and a lubricant layer sequentially on the perpendicular magnetic recording layer.

14. (New) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 2, wherein perpendicular magnetic enhancement layer is formed of Pt and has a thickness no less than 15 nm.